

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. Additions are underlined; deletions are in ~~strikeout~~ text.

Please cancel Claims 34 and 35 without prejudice.

1-19. Cancelled

20. (Currently Amended) A front-loading, stackable packaging system for storing and transporting a pizza in a generally horizontal disposition, comprising:

first, second, and third layers that are arranged generally horizontally;

wherein the first, second and third layers each have elongate side edges, the respective side edges being attached to one another so that the first, second, and third layers are disposed generally one above the other, and the second layer is disposed between the first and third layers;

wherein a main space is defined between the first and second layers, and a pocket space is defined between the second and third layers, the main space being accessible via a front-loading opening between the first and second layers; and

a pizza holder adapted to selectively fit through the front-loading opening into the main space, the holder adapted to be stackable with another similar holder one on top of the other without crushing the pizza;

wherein a first aperture is formed through the third layer, the aperture providing access to the pocket space.

21. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 20, wherein the first, second, and third layers each have generally opposed elongate side edges.

22. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 21, wherein the first and second layers each have rear edges, and the rear edges of the first and second layers are attached to one another.

23. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 22, wherein the first and second layers each have front edges, and the first and second layers are selectively attachable along their front edges so as to provide selective access to the main space.

24. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 23, wherein the first layer has a flap portion adjacent its front edge, and the flap has a fastener configured to selectively engage a portion of the second layer to selectively close the main space.

25. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 24, wherein the fastener comprises a reusable adhesive.

26. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 22, wherein the first and second layer rear edges are attached by a rear folding portion that extends therebetween.

27. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 26, wherein the first and second layer side edges are attached by side folding portions that extend therebetween.

28. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 22, wherein the first and second layers are formed of a substantially contiguous sheet of material, and the attached rear edges of the first and second layers comprises a fold in the contiguous sheet.

29. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 22, wherein the third layer has a rear edge, and the first, second and third layers are attached to one another along their rear edges.

30. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 29, wherein the third layer has a front edge, and the third layer front edge is attached to the second layer.

31. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 30, wherein the third layer comprises a second aperture spaced from the first aperture, wherein a handle is defined between the first and second apertures.

32. (Previously Presented) A packaging system as in Claim 31, wherein the handle is generally centrally-located relative to the second layer.

33. (Currently Amended) ~~A packaging system as in Claim 20,~~ A packaging system,
comprising:

first, second, and third layers that are arranged generally horizontally;

wherein the first, second and third layers each have elongate side edges, the
respective side edges being attached to one another so that the first, second, and third
layers are disposed generally one above the other, and the second layer is disposed
between the first and third layers;

wherein a main space is defined between the first and second layers, and a pocket space is defined between the second and third layers;

wherein a first aperture is formed through the third layer, the aperture providing access to the pocket space; and

wherein the third layer comprises a second aperture spaced from the first aperture, wherein a handle is defined between the first and second apertures.

34. Cancelled

35. Cancelled

36. (Currently Amended) ~~A package as in Claim 35;~~ A package, comprising:

a contiguous sheet of material folded to overlap itself so as to form first, second and third layers, the first, second and third layers each having opposing side edges and being attached to one another along their side edges;

the first and second layers attached to one another along a first fold of the contiguous sheet, the first fold defining a rear edge of each of the first and second layers;

the second and third layers attached to one another along a second fold of the contiguous sheet, the second fold defining a front edge of each of the second and third layers;

a contents space defined between the first and second layers and between the attached side edges and the first fold;

an opening between a front edge of the first layer and a front edge of the second layer, the opening providing access to the contents space;

the first layer having a front flap, the front flap adapted to engage a portion of the contiguous sheet so as to selectively close the opening; and

a secondary space defined between the second layer and the third layer, the third layer comprising a first aperture providing access to the secondary space;

wherein the third layer comprises a second aperture, and a handle is defined between the first and second apertures.

37. (Previously Presented) A package as in Claim 36, wherein the contiguous sheet of material is selected from the group consisting of plastic, thermoplastic, high density polyethylene, low density polyethylene, nylon, fabric, paper, and laminated paper.

38. (Previously Presented) A package as in Claim 36, wherein the contiguous sheet of material has a heat tolerance of at least 200°F for at least 60 minutes and is microwavable.

39. (Currently Amended) A package as in Claim ~~35~~36, wherein the contents space is sized and arranged to accommodate a pizza, and the first aperture is sized and arranged so that napkins can be fit at least partially into the secondary space.

Please add the following new claims:

40. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 33, wherein the handle is generally centrally-located relative to the second layer.

41. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 40, wherein the first and second layers are constructed of a material having a heat tolerance of at least 200°F for at least 60 minutes.

42. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 33, wherein a front-loading opening is provided between the first and second layers to provide access to the main space.

43. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 42 additionally comprising a holder sized and adapted to fit within the main space, the holder having a vertical component adapted to support a second holder stacked thereon.

44. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 43, wherein the main space is adapted to accommodate a plurality of holders stacked on top of one another.

45. (New) A front-loading, stackable packaging system for storing and transporting a pizza in a generally horizontal disposition, comprising:

first and second layers that are arranged generally horizontally one above the other;

the first and second layers each having elongate side edges, the respective side edges being attached to one another so that a space is defined between the first and second layers, the space being accessible via a front-loading opening at which at least a portion of the respective side edges are unattached, the space being sized and adapted to accommodate a pizza disposed horizontally therewithin; and

a pizza holder adapted to selectively fit through the front-loading opening into the space, the pizza holder adapted to be stackable with another similar holder one on top of another in a horizontal disposition without crushing the pizza.

Appl. No. : **10/681,472**
Filed : **October 8, 2003**

46. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 45, wherein the first and second layers are constructed of a material having a heat tolerance of at least 200°F for at least 60 minutes.

47. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 46, wherein the first layer comprises a flap adjacent the front-loading opening, the flap comprising an adhesive and being adapted to be selectively engageable with the second layer to selectively close the front-loading opening so as to hold hot vapors within the package.

48. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 45, wherein the pizza holder has a vertically-direct component adapted to support a second pizza holder stacked thereon.

49. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 48, wherein a plurality of stacked pizza holders can be disposed within the space defined between the first and second layers.

50. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 48 in combination with a second, similar packaging system, and the second packaging system is stacked on top of the first packaging system so that the pizza holder of the first packaging system supports the second packaging system.

51. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 45 additionally comprising a third layer attached to the second layer, the third layer comprising a handle adapted to carry the packaging system so that the front-loading opening is generally horizontally-disposed.

52. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 51, wherein the handle is generally centrally-located relative to the second layer.

53. (New) A packaging system as in Claim 52, wherein the handle is defined between two apertures formed through the third layer.